meme lame or Magazine

memeorlame.com

A Citizen media for gizmophiles

The iPhone Saga Begins

MAY 2007
VOLUME 0 - ISSUE 0

5 EDITORIAL

10 ATTACK OF THE IPHONE CLONES

11 HI I'M AN IPHONE ADS

12 BLACKBERRY SERVICES OUTAGE

12 RIM'S NEW SOFTWARE TO MAKE WINDOWS MOBILE MIMIC BLACKBERRY

12 GLORIOUS BLACKBERRY 8300

12 BLACKBERRY 8820 CONFIRMED TO HAVE WIFI BUT NO CAMERA

13 BLACKBERRY 8830 – THE CDMO/GSM WORLD PHONE HITS MARKET IN MAY

13 DOLLARS 5 MEDIAPLAYER DOES FULL SCREEN VIDEO FOR BLACKBERRY

13 CHANGE YOUR BLACKBERRY PEARL TRACKBALL COLOR - THE EASY WAY AND HARD WAY

14 FUTURE BLACKBERRIES

14 PALM IN A MONTH OF NEWS WITH NEW OS, CORPORATE BLOG, BACKUP SOFTWARE AND NO ACQUISITIONS YET

15 MISCROSOFT'S ZUNE PHONE - REAL OR RUMOR?

15 GOOGLE PHONE - WILL IT BECOME A REALITY?

15 YOUTUBE'S LOVE FOR MOBILE PHONES

16 DEEPFISH - ENHANCED BROWSING FOR MOBILE

Meme Or Lame - An Intro

introducing Meme or Lame Platform and Magazine

Apple iPhone

News on the new announcement from Apple

Blackberries

More news on RIM's Blackberries

Table of Contents

20

iPod - not just limited for the Mac tribe

Discussion on iPod sightings and accessories

26

Gadget Bits

News on gadgets

33

OLPC

News from the project's progress

16 MOBILE NEWBIES

18 BUTTERFLY - A KILLER CONCEPT PHONE

21 ZUNE TURNS PINK

21 ZUNE 2.0 AND FLASH ZUNE

22 SANSA SHAKER - MP3 FOR KIDS

22 SANSA CONNECT

23 SANSA BASE STATION

23 HERCULES DOES DIGITAL DJ MINUS WIRES

23 BLU-RAY DISC SALES SURPASS ONE MILLION MARK

24 HDDVD AND DIGG.COM PWNED BY A SERIES OF NUMBERS

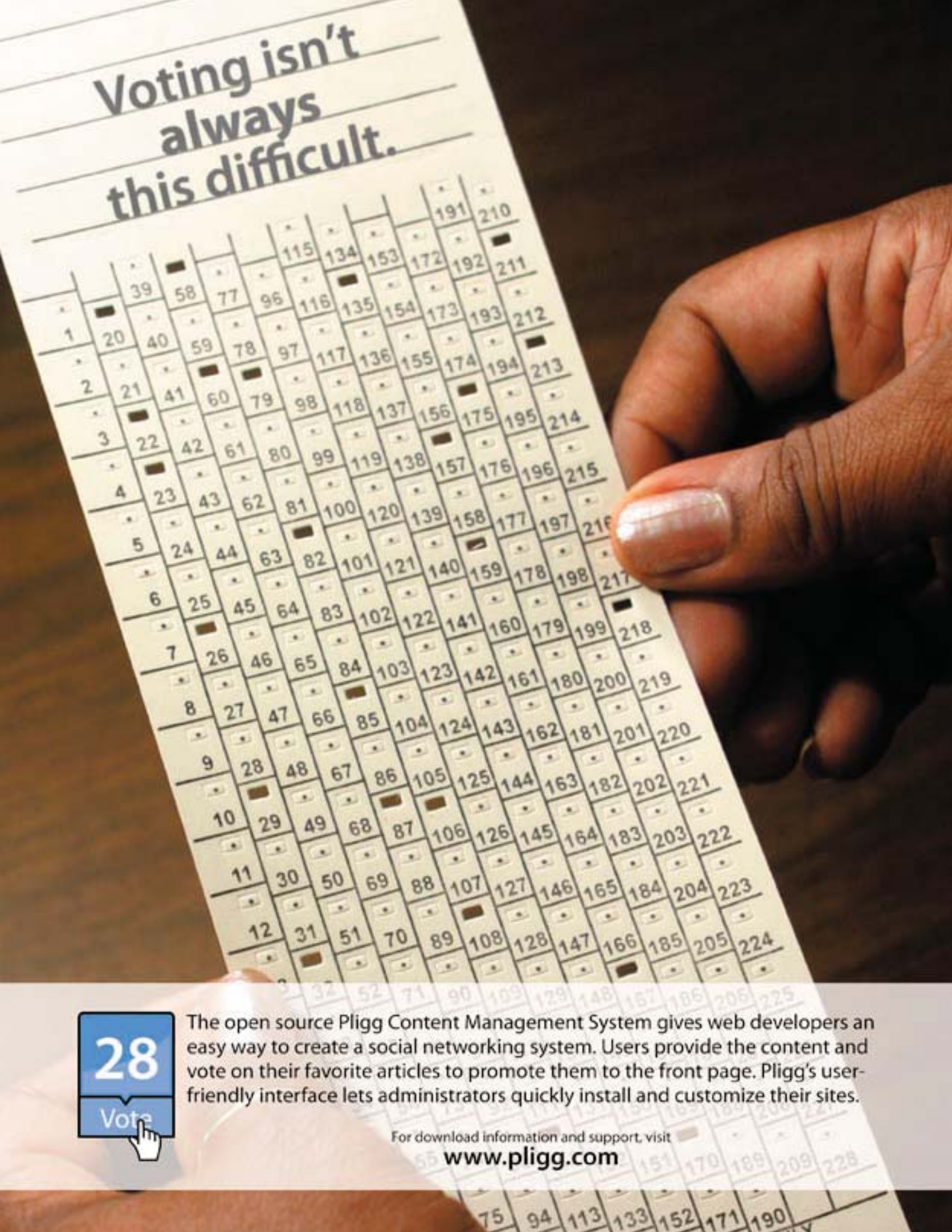
24 IRIVER'S B20 IS FINALLY AVAILABLE

24 FINEDIGITAL'S FINEDRIVE M760 – SLIM PMP WITH GPS NAVIGATION

26 LG PORTABLE GPS HITS US MARKET

30 GAMING BITS

30 DIY NEWBIES


Voting isn't always this difficult.
28
Vote
The open source Pligg Content Management System gives web developers an easy way to create a social networking system. Users provide the content and vote on their favorite articles to promote them to the front page. Pligg's user-friendly interface lets administrators quickly install and customize their sites.
For download information and support, visit
www.pligg.com

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What is Meme or Lame Magazine?

CITIZEN MEDIA OR PARTICIPATORY MEDIA IS A TYPE OF DEMOCRATIC CONTENT PRODUCTION SYSTEM WHERE THE CONTENT CREATORS ARE NOT PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS. MEME OR LAME IS AN INNOVATIVE ATTEMPT AT CITIZEN MEDIA WHERE THE GADGETS RELATED DEMOCRATIC CONTENT IS COMPILED TO CREATE A MONTHLY MAGAZINE – MEME OR LAME MAGAZINE

The concept is originally inspired by the voting of content concept of Digg.com (we all love Digg and Kevin Rose) and Reddit.com; we just thought of applying it to a relatively new form of publication creation. The platform was created with Pligg framework which was flexible enough to accommodate all our needs.

MemeorLame.com was launched and remained in beta since April 19, with 21 members actively contributing content. Everyone is invited for voting – absolutely no registration required, for submitting content to the site requires an active membership.

With the launch of our very first issue – Volume 1 - Issue 0, for the month of May 2007, we invite everyone to participate in our effort by voting or submitting content for inclusion in the magazine. We accept submissions in the following topics: Mobile – mobile phone, carrier, and software related submissions, AVPlayers – audio, video player related submissions and Gadgets related submissions,including but not limited to VoIP, Bluetooth, GPS, lifestyle and other gears.

Also we have launched an initiative where we allow free advertisement slots to Open source software projects to use the magazine as a platform for promoting the projects. There will also be commercial advertisement slots for details of advertisement specifications please contact the advertisement department at ads@memeorlame.com

We would also love to hear from you about our initiative and improvements at feedback@memeorlame.com

Senior Editor

Meme or Lame - An Intro

MEME OR LAME IS A CITIZEN MEDIA FOR GIZMOPHILES. MEME OR LAME ALLOWS USERS TO RATE, READ ND WRITE GADGETS RELATED CONTENT. THE COMPILED SUBMISSIONS ARE PUBLISHED THROUGH THIS MAGAZINE. THE FOLLOWING SECTION WILL DETAIL ON THE MEME OR LAME SERVICE.

What is meme or lame?

Meme or Lame is a participatory media endeavors to bring editors and readers closer.

As a user, you can rate, read and write gadget related content and connect with others having common interests and passion. There are topic specific communities that suit you most where you can find and submit news or write a review or an editorial article empowering you to produce content as an editor. Here you can share your views, comments, and make friends. Moreover, by actively participating you'll get rewarded as top users and featured editors.

Submissions will be open for voting till 25th of every month, the select top rated stories will be compiled by the editorial team into a magazine available for download in PDF format.

What is rating of stories?

The user submissions are available for reading and rating in the Rate section.

The submissions immediately appear as 'Un Rated' content – where users can vote 'Meme' to indicate that they like it or vote 'Lame' to indicate their dislike as the content is inappropriate or dupe or inaccurate. Each vote increases the "Memes" value of the story.

When the story gets Meme mounting rapidly – it gets promoted to the front page called as 'Top Rated' page. If it gets more popular it qualifies for '5 Top Rated' story of the month.

What is writing for Meme or Lame?

The Write section is a place to submit news, reviews and editorial articles for others to rate.

The submission can be a news item from other Websites: where the URL of the submission should be presented for others to view the original article, you can give a brief description of the news item as readers will find more details from the original site.

The submission can also be a review or editorial article, which do not require an URL and you can use the Meme or Lame as a blogging platform for your submission.

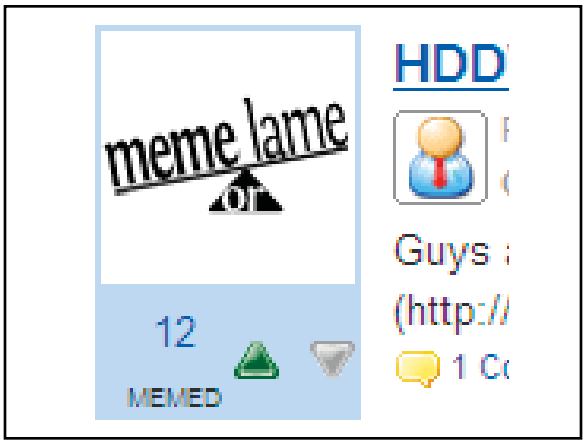
Once submitted the story goes to the 'Un Rated' section for other users to review and promote to front page.

What is Read?

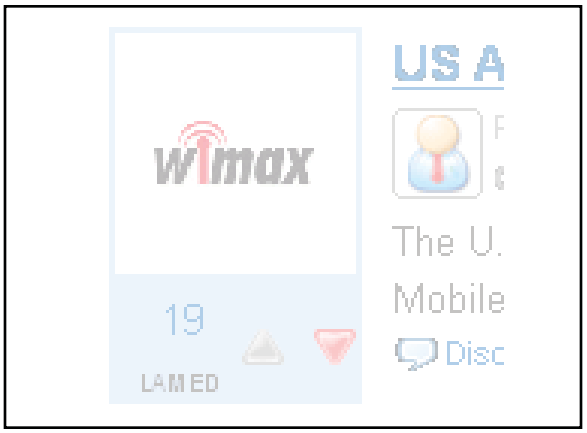
Read section is for the users to download and read the compiled list of editorials as a Magazine available for reading and download in PDF format. The stories submitted and promoted to front page before 25th of any month are compiled and considered for inclusion in the Magazine.

Once the stories are compiled they are no longer available for voting and users should vote on fresh content submitted.

UnVoted Submission

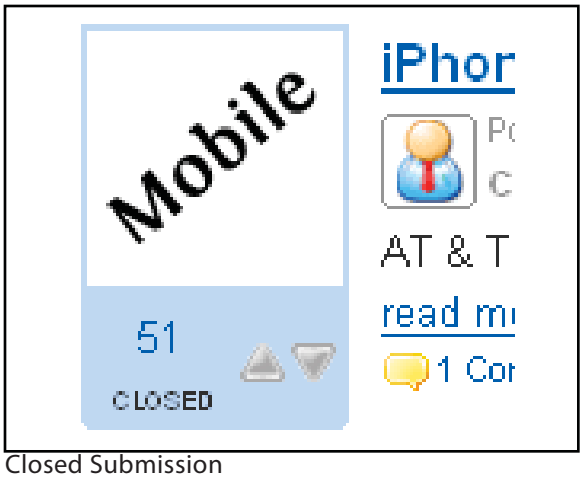


"Meme it" to up vote on content



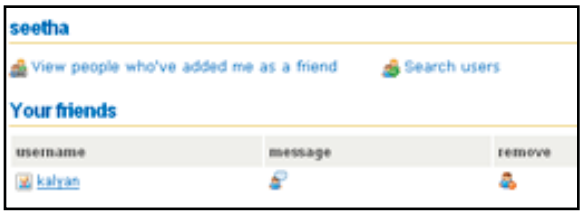
"Lame it" to down vote on content

Meme or Lame - An Intro

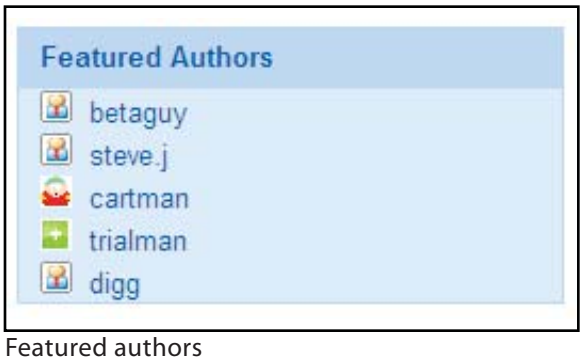


Closed Submission

World's first mobile phone with a 7.1 spea
Posted by kalyan 23 hours ago Total Votes:12 (http://jus
Category: Other | Tags: mobile phone sound
It has a 7.1 speaker system which is supposed to del
read more »
Discuss
Add this link to...
Save
Tell a friend
Add to:
Bookmarks
Add links and Tell a friend



Friends networking



Featured authors

How to review the stories?

Apart from rating the stories, users can participate in discussions on the stories by commenting on the story with your views and suggestions to improve it. The author of the story may consider it and add the suggestions or the editor may edit it to improve on it.

Other users can express their views on the comments with their voting – thus favoring a good suggestion and suppressing unwanted comments. Again the users are rewarded for their comments if is more popular for a particular month by getting displayed in the '5 Top Rated' comments.

This practice makes Meme or Lame editorial becomes a community processes making Meme or Lame a participatory media.

How to interact with others?

Meme or Lame also allows social networking with others by forming friends, messaging to other users. The communications services provided can be effectively used as medium of interaction between users for gaining feedback on their submissions.

What is Tell a friend and adding links to..?

If you find a content to be more appealing to suit the taste of your friend, you can send an e-mail by using the 'Tell a friend' to invite them to read the story. Also you can promote the story on other social news sites like Digg.com, Del.icio.us, Reddit.com, Simpy.com, Yahoo! News – to get other to read the content.

How do I benefit from writing for Meme or Lame?

Writing to Meme or Lame is an excellent opportunity to get featured on the monthly magazine, there is also possibility of getting promoted to the 'Top Users' list.

Not just these you can also gain monetary benefit by displaying your very own Google Ads on your submissions page (you required to be registered with Google Adsense program and have an AdSense ID that you must configure from your profile). Default the ads are displayed 50% allotment for your Adsense ID but if the author is active with more original and fresh content – it can be increased to 95% as a reward for your contribution. (This program is subject to policy change of Google and might be discontinued if needed)

Why do I need to register with Meme or Lame?

Registration is not needed for rating, reading and downloading the magazine, but for writing for meme or lame, an active registration is required, as during the time of publication, it is required for us to publish the contributor details.

What are the terminologies used in Meme or Lame?

Meme It – to vote up a content you like

Lame It – to vote down content you do not like

Memes – the number of Meme votes the content has received

Closed – the content is not available for voting and is being compiled for inclusion in magazine

Apple iPhone

APPLE IS KNOWN FOR THEIR INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS. EVERYONE HAD IT IN RUMORS THAT APPLE IS TO BRING US AN INNOVATIVE PHONE SINCE 2005. AND IT FINALLY BECAME TRUE WHEN STEVE JOBS, THE MOST ADMIRED CEO OF APPLE INC., ANNOUNCED IPHONE - A MULTIMEDIA AND INTERNET-ENABLED MOBILE PHONE DURING THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE MACWORLD CONFERENCE & EXPO ON 9 JANUARY 2007

The iPhone is an amalgam of a camera phone, a multimedia player, mobile phone, and Internet services like e-mail, text messaging, web browsing and wireless connectivity. iPhone input is accomplished via touchscreen with virtual keyboard and buttons. The iPhone is a quad-band GSM phone, though Jobs mentioned in his keynote that Apple has a "plan to make 3G phones" in the future. Apple has filed more than 200 patents related to the technology behind the iPhone.

The iPhone is scheduled to be released in the United States in June 2007. It will be available from the Apple Store and from Cingular Wireless, with a price of US$499 for the 4 GB model and US$599 for the 8 GB model, based on a two-year service contract. Apple has also announced plans to make the iPhone available in Europe and Japan at a later date.

iPhone is not the first phone from Apple – a brief history

iPod – portable media player, is the Apple Inc's flagship product together with iTunes software which allows synchronization of content. On September 7, 2005, Apple and Motorola released the ROKR E1, the first mobile phone to use iTunes. However Jobs was unhappy with the ROKR, feeling that having to compromise with a non-Apple designer (Motorola) prevented Apple from designing the phone he wanted to make.] In September 2006, Apple discontinued support for the ROKR and released a version of iTunes that included references to an as-yet unknown mobile phone that could display pictures and video. On January 9, 2007, Jobs announced the iPhone at the Macworld convention, receiving substantial media attention. The iPhone is nearly all screen, small form-factor and simple rounded-rectangle motif; the design is much accredited to Apple Inc's head of design, Jonathan Ive.

Features galore

Touch Screen

The best of all is that iPhone features a Touch screen and is specifically created for use with a finger, or multiple fingers for multi-touch sensing. No stylus is needed, nor can one be used, as the touch screen requires bare skin to operate. For text input, the device implements a virtual keyboard on the touchscreen. It has automatic spell checking, predictive word capabilities, and a dynamic dictionary that learns new words.

Os

Apple has confirmed an optimized, full version of the Mac OS X operating system (without unnecessary components) will run on the iPhone, although differences between the operating system (OS X) running on Macs and the iPhone have not been officially explained. It is expected to take up considerably less than 500 MB. iPhone is capable of running Widgets and a stock and weather widgets were featured during the Macworld 2007 keynote as examples.

Phone

With iPhone, making a call is as simple as touching a name or number. In addition, you can easily construct a favorites list for your most frequently made calls, and quickly merge calls together to create conference calls.

Camera

The iPhone features a 2 megapixel camera with video and software that allows the user to upload, view,

and e-mail photos. The camera application responds to multi-touch for Zoom in and Zoom out.

Multimedia

iPhone can play video and audio much like the fifth generation iPods. It allows to scroll through songs, artists, albums, and playlists with just a flick of a finger. Album artwork is dramatically presented on the large display. And now use Cover Flow to browse your music library by album artwork for the first time on an iPod.

Internet

The iPhone has built-in WiFi (802.11b/g), with which it will be able to access the Internet using the Safari browser. The iPhone will also be able to connect to the Internet through Cingular's EDGE network. With its advanced Safari browser, iPhone lets you see web page as they appear on a desktop, and multi-touch enabled users to zoom in by simply tapping with a finger. The iPhone also features an HTML e-mail application, with ability to attach files with an e-mail message. Yahoo! will be providing a free Push-IMAP e-mail service similar to that on a BlackBerry; IMAP and POP3 mail standards are also supported, including Microsoft Exchange. At present the iPhone cannot synchronize with Microsoft Outlook e-mail client.

Technical Specifications

Screen size	3.5 inches
Screen resolution	320 by 480 at 160 ppi
Input method	Multi-touch
Operating system	OS X
Storage	4GB or 8GB
GSM	Quad-band (MHz: 850, 900, 1800, 1900)
Wireless data	Wi-Fi (802.11b/g) + EDGE + Bluetooth 2.0
Camera	2.0 megapixels
Battery	Up to 5 hours Talk / Video / Browsing, Up to 16 hours Audio playback
Dimensions	4.5 x 2.4 x 0.46 inches / 115 x 61 x 11.6mm
Weight	4.8 ounces / 135 grams

The processor and speed is unknown, while Apple Insider stated that Samsung will provide a unified CPU. EE Times Europe published a report that three ARM processors are used in iPhone, but did not confirm exactly what chips might be used.

First ever iPhone Ad and email teaser

The first advertisement titled "Hello," for the iPhone aired during the 79th Academy Awards and took place on 25 February 2007 on ABC. The ad, which is available on the Apple website, features clips of people answering phones from several notable films and television shows, all saying a greeting, towards the context of saying "hello". The commercial does not actually have them answering the iPhone, although iPhone is shown at the end with the caption "Coming in June".

Apple Inc.'s eagerly sought iPhone device remains on track to launch this June, according to an email sent out by the company to mobile customers who signed up to received more information on the device. "Talk to you soon," says the e-mail teaser, which was accompanied by a photo of iPhone device itself on a black background. It also says "You'll be the first to hear the latest about iPhone— coming this June. That gives you just enough time to think of ways to break the news to your current phone."

First iPhone sighting outside MWSF

The iPhone was shown off on 27th March at CTIA 2007 by AT&T COO Randall Stephenson, who showed an iPhone demo video and let everybody know AT&T had received over a million customer inquiries regarding the device. He has re-confirmed to the Financial Post that the iPhone is, indeed, still coming out at the end of June. "Our expectations are good. Our testing has been good. The iPhone is on target to launch in June," he said.

First photo taken with iPhone

This is supposedly the first photo taken with iPhone available at Flickr.com. The EXIF info seems to reveal the camera make as Apple and model as iPhone.

Waiting for June for the iPhone to arrive…

As many of the Apple fans out there, we also wait eagerly for the iPhone to arrive in June. The iPhone has already created some businesses around it even before official launch; with skin/case makers producing much anticipated iPhone cases, some of them have been featured in the pictures. The mean time there are news like Microsoft is preparing a Zune phone. With the kind of anticipation and attention iPhone has received it is sure to break our hearts with record sales. But many things cannot be predicted unless we get a hands-on with iPhone.

Contributors

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References

http://www.apple.com/iphone/

http://www.appleinsider.com

http://www.engadget.com

Attack of the iPhone Clones

THERE HAS BEEN TOO MUCH HEAT THIS SUMMER WITH IPHONE NEWS LIGHTING FROM ALL SIDES. AND TO IGNITE IT FURTHER IS THE IPHONE LOOK-ALIKES OR BETTER IPHONE CLONES. SOME IMPORTANT IPHONE CLONES ARE LG PRADA KE850 AND MEIZU MINIONE

LG Prada K850

With the debate of is iPhone and LG Prada KE850 which won the "Product Design Award for 2007" at International Forum Design 2007 are twins separated at birth, they both seem to have more similarities with the Onyx concept phone. LG KE850 was developed in Seoul by LG Electronics (later sold off to Prada). LG's Prada Phone is being produced in partnership with the Italian fashion brand. Some news is that LG Prada KE850 will be running on Windows Mobile 6.0.

meizu M8/miniOne

The Meizu M8 will also be known as Meizu miniOne and is planned to be released Q4 2007 and Meizu's CEO J.Wong proudly bragged in their forums that they kind of stole iPhone concepts and wanted to have a full touch-screen phone well ahead of iPhone announcement. But as a sudden twist, this month they seemed to make some redesigns to make miniOne for less Apple iPhone similarity (find the eight differences), but this still appears to be just image mockups and no production or real world phone spotted yet.

FIC Neo1973

One more touch-screen phone comes from FIC - Neo1973 or FIC-GTA001, which is the first phone based on the open-source "OpenMoko" platform. It will be a completely open, Linux-based, GPS-equipped, quad-band GSM/GPRS phone direct, worldwide, for $350 or less, in Q1, 2007. This is not an iPhone clone – but comes with touch screen interface. It can be considered as an Open-low cost alternative for iPhone.

All phones are illustrated below for your convenience.

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apple iPhone

LG Prada KE850

Meizu miniOne

FIC Neo1973

References

http://gizmodo.com
http://www.meizume.com
http://www.myiphone.com
http://www.engadget.com
http://blogs.zdnet.com
http://www.linuxdevices.com

"Hi I'm an iPhone" Ads

WE ALL KNOW THE "HI I'M A MAC" ADS AS A PART OF GET A MAC CAMPAIGN FEATURING JOHN HODGMAN AND JUSTIN LONG. WITH THE ADVENT OF IPHONE LONG ZHENG OF THE BLOG HTTP://WWW.ISTARTEDSOMETHING.COM HAS FEATURED A HILARIOUS ONE FEATURING AN IPHONE AND A SAMSUNG SMARTPHONE

The whole series was based on a forum discussion at http://www.neowin.net/ and originally posted by user tao muon. The illustrations are presented here for you to laugh at. Just take it funny and not as serious as Wired Blog took it to call it lame.

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References

http://www.istartedsomething.com

http://www.neowin.net

http://blog.wired.com

Hi. I'm an iPhone.
And I'm a Smartphone.
You see, our emails get pushed to us when they come in. So do our appointments and schedule.
That way we don't waste bandwidth.
Oh, really? But I can work on GSM networks.
I can play music and do email....
We've been waiting for you.
Oh?
Nothing to be ashamed of.
What?
No really. I'm compatiable with CDMA / EVDO, GSM and UMTS networks.
I can also interface with inventory control applications, do spreadsheets and database interfacing... etc etc..
We have been able to play music for quite a while now. Did you say you do email?
Yes. I check for new emails all the time.
What a waste.
What?
Ummm....
Well you have to start somewhere.
But I have random access voicemail
Did I mention my brother can do GPS mapping?
I think I'm going to need more icons.

Blackberry services outage!!!

The BlackBerry network suffered a complete outage in North America for the more than 12 hours (since 8PM EST). Apparently email traffic and all BlackBerry Enterprise Server services have been totally wrecked.

In a press release by Research In Motion Ltd. (RIM) the Blackberry device manufacturer - the installation of an insufficiently tested piece of software set off a chain reaction that eventually cut off BlackBerry service to more than five million users in North America users, the devices' maker said late Thursday. RIM said that the defective software — technically a change to the system's operating routine — was intended to improve the operation of the BlackBerry handling system's cache, a temporary holding area for data that is usually used to speed processing. It was a change that R.I.M. did not believe could upset the overall operation. But the statement said: "the pretesting of the system routine proved inadequate." RIM said, however, that it had confirmed that the fault was not related to "core software infrastructure," hardware, a security breach or a lack of capacity.

Contributors

Dogbert (name unknown)

References

http://www.nytimes.com

http://www.rim.com

RIM's new software to make Windows Mobile mimic Blackberry

BlackBerry maker Research In Motion Ltd. (RIM) is unveiling a new software application that can make Palm Treos and other Windows-based mobile smartphones work like a BlackBerry.

The software, due in the fall, is designed to expand BlackBerry's leadership by offering an option to individuals who may not want to switch devices to get the service, and to companies that would like to give employees a wider selection of handhelds without being forced to support multiple mobile e-mail platforms. This emulation software is specifically targeted device running Windows mobile 6.0 OS platform, so older devices need to upgrade to the latest OS to get this facility.

The application replaces the Windows layout and icons on the display with the look of the BlackBerry interface, customized to the specific buttons and screen size of that device. A non-BlackBerry device would then be able to connect with BlackBerry servers for e-mail, calendar, address book and other software for the Blackberry platform by RIM and third-party developers. The user gets an option to toggle between platforms as needed, for example – he can switch to Windows Media Player for music. It is expected that RIM would be charging $30 to $50 a month for this service.

Contributors

Cartman (name unknown)

References

http://news.yahoo.com

Glorious Blackberry 8300 Daytona

Photos of a purportedly unannounced Blackberry codenamed "Daytona" were spotted in a Spanish site Mentesdigitales together with a video of the device. This new RIM device clearly marked "evaluation unit" on the back is said to feature a 2 megapixel camera with LED flash, GPS, and WiFi. Spanish site Xataka speculates that this device will carry an 8300 model number when it hits at the start of summer.

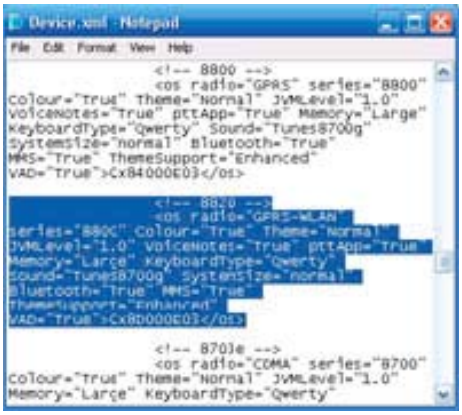
Contributors

Seetha (Seetha Lakshmi)

References

http://mentesdigitales.wordpress.com

Blackberry 8820 Confirmed to have WiFi but no Camera



The release of the first public version of BlackBerry OS 4.2.1.x for the Cingular brand came with evidence that the 8820 will be the next BlackBerry from RIM.

The Device.xml file that comes with OS 4.2.0.109 for the Cingular 8800c reveals that the 8820 will have a WiFi (reads GPRS-WLAN), support for voice-activated dialing and push-to-talk capabilities, but unfortunately Camera is not listed. While we all wait for 8820 – the 8830 hit market with Verizon and Sprit much before in May and June respectively.

Contributors

Seetha (Seetha Lakshmi)

References

http://www.boygeniusreport.com

Blackberry 8830 – the CDMO/GSM world phone hits market in May

It's official that Verizon Wireless will be selling RIM's Global CDMA/GSM "World Edition" BlackBerry 8830 codenamed the 'Cyclone' on May 14 through its business units and online retailing outfits. The 8830 will cost $299.99 after a $100 rebate with a "new two-year customer agreement". You can get an additional $100 credit if you sign up for "qualifying" plans when you buy it. Blackberry 8830 is to look like 8800 and will feature a QVGA screen, microSD slot, and 3G EV-DO support. The bad news is that it will lack the camera. On related news Sprint's getting one available July and is going to be in black color, you can pre-order one starting April 26.

Contributors

Seetha (Seetha Lakshmi)

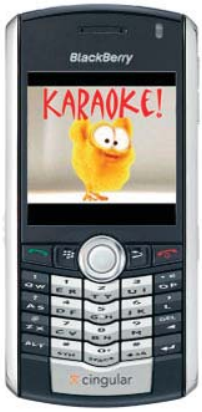
Dogbert (original name unknown)

References

http://gizmodo.com

http://www.phonearena.com

Dollars 5 mediaPlayer does full screen video for Blackberry



Dollars 5 Complete released a mediaplayer for Blackberry phones 8100 which featured multiple playlist creation, dance lights for trackball during music playback (very cool and is beautiful in darkness) and more important searching for media with recent reusable searches is much convincing.

With the advent of 8800 and the new OS 4.2.1 for pearl 8100, RIM has enabled third party application vendors to access video playback, and Dollars 5 mediaPlayer was the first and only application to utilize it to create a full screen playback without any disturbing buttons – the videos appear cute on the Pearl and 8800 now. Though an option to rotate the video by 90 degree to enable a wider display is not available, this application seems to be a most wanted one and is available for just $20 from their site. Also noted is that with Bluetooth headset – the sound is routed to the headset; which is more appealing.

Some video features on their site at http://dollars5.com/QA/sweety.avi plays at scaled down smaller version with bundled media player and Dollars 5 mediaPlayer plays it to full width. The recommended tool for video conversion for Blackberry is a freeware from Seabyrd Technologies - Blackberry Video Converter available from http://www.seabyrdtech.com/bbvideo - which works great with Dollars 5 mediaPlayer. Dollars 5 seem to add more features at regular pace, with equalizer (seems like they are dependent on RIM to adapt the new JSR-234) and rotation of video. Their support is very responsive and kind enough to get any problem rectified soon.

Related software for Blackberry - multi-Play from Dollars 5 Complete; comes as a freeware with some restrictions and for just $27.5 it gives full advantage of a media player with full screen video playback, voice recording in various format, notepad to manipulate text files and interoperate with memopad. This is a company to watch with more innovative products for low price.

Contributors

Digg (original name unknown)

References

http://www.dollars5.com/plete/

http://www.blackberryforums.com

Change your Blackberry Pearl trackball color - the easy way and hard way

Metsfan of BlackBerryForums recently announced his freeware for changing the color of blackberry trackball. It is available for download from http://www.geekandproud.net/blackberry-software/#ColorPearl and very easy o install and use - all it has is enable/disable and color selection. You can set these in Options>ColorPearl. Colors available are: White, Red, Green, Blue, Cyan, Yellow, Pink, Custom (Hex RRGGBB), Random. Metsfan is the creator for AutoLock and SoftReset applications. Incidentally there was an application selling at Handango to do the same for $5 and seemed to be pretty buggy.

There is a hard way of doing it detailed by user SanFrancisco which required a trackball disassembly and coloring the LED with a marker.

Contributors

Dogbert (name unknown)

References

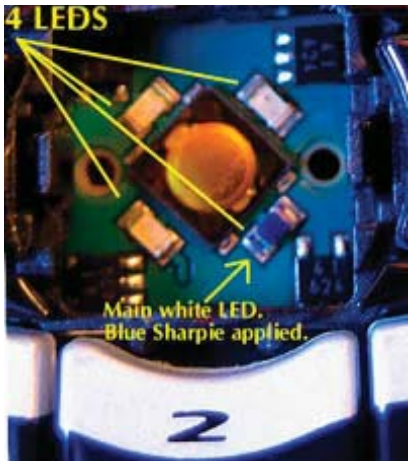
http://www.nytimes.com

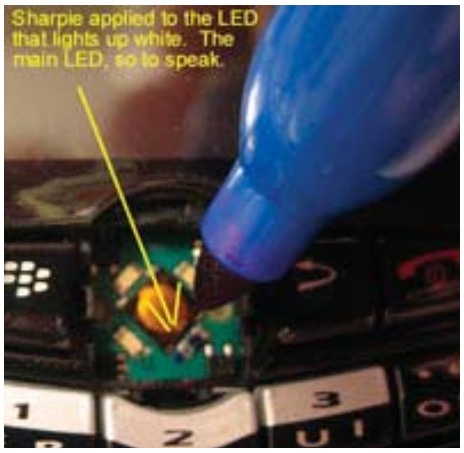
http://www.rim.com

(Images courtesy Michael Mortimer)

Lifting the chrome [plastic] retaining ring out of the trackball socket. Use very light upward pressure.
Keep a finger over the ring while applying pressure so that the ring does not pop off and fly into the air.

You can gently lift out the trackball assembly with a screwdriver. But be careful not to puncture anything. It comes out quite easily. In the alternative, you can partially remove it then turn the Pearl upside down to have the trackball fall out.





Future Blackberries

Unwiredview did a patents search for RIM to find their future plans with the advent of iPhone, and the results were pretty awesome with rotatable keyboards featured in patent application # 20070057821, Multiple keyword context sensitivity for application usage featured in patent application # 20070078925, both filed in 4Q05.

We just can't wait to see the future Blackberry devices that will compete with iPhone, hopefully the Canadian company will not succumb with an iPhone clone.

Contributors

Seethe (Seetha Lakshmi)

References

http://www.unwiredview.com

http://uspto.gov

Palm in a month of news with new OS, corporate blog, backup software and no acquisitions yet

We have seen enough "Palm for sale" ads in e-bay – but this time the Palm Inc was in news with rumors of the Palm Inc., itself for sale. But Palm remains mum on the rumors confirming it further. The buyers were rumors to be Nokia, Motorola and RIM but nothing turned out.

Palm Inc. said on April 10, Treo phone sales in Europe and Asia would spur growth in the next three to five years, but declined to discuss the topic of most interest to investors -- rumors it is for sale. Palm, whose Treo phone competes with Research In Motion Ltd.'s Blackberry, said it would deliver new

products, and suggested it was developing operating system software based on the open-source Linux platform; which is totally different from that of ACCESS Linux Platform which was earlier developed by Palm Source.

Palm Inc, also recently launched a corporate blog April 11, located at http://blog.palm.com. The blog will be featuring posts from a number of different people at all levels from the company. Palm says we can look forward to more posts about educational topics on Palm products, thoughts on Palm's vision and glimpses into employee thoughts and company culture.

Palm also announced a new beta application that they have made available to Palm OS Treo smartphone users called Palm Backup. The program saves your contacts, calendar, tasks, memos and more over the air to their secure server. This software requires Treo 700P, Treo 680, or Treo 650 smartphone with approximately 2MB of available RAM.

Contributors

Betaguy (original name unknown)

References

http://www.palm.com

http://blog.palm.com

http://www.palminfocenter.com

http://mytreo.net

Miscrosoft's Zune phone - real or rumor?

A newly published patent application assigned to Microsoft provides a unique insight into what the Zune Phone interface might look like. The patent, filed on June 16th 2006 and published on 12th April 1007, covers Tile Space User Interface for Mobile devices vide application # 20070082707; details on using dynamic tiles may form an "improved user interface for mobile devices such as smartphones, personal digital assistants" and from the pictures below it looks fairly intuitive, although slightly unconventional and more similar to the interface of iPhone. There are some 12 more patents from Microsoft which might all lead to a Zune phone pretty soon.

But as a twist to the story so far, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer answered questions on April 19 at a USA Today CEO Forum on the University of Washington campus, and at one point interviewer David Lieberman of USA Today asked about Microsoft's plans for a Zune phone. "It's not a concept you'll ever get from us," Ballmer said. "We're in the Windows Mobile business." Such comments obviously are open to interpretations – only time will tell us of Zune phone a real or a rumor.

Contributors

Kalyan (Kalyana Sundaram)

References

http://www.mad4mobilephones.co.uk

http://uspto.gov

Google phone - will it become a reality?

When the iPhone was announced this year, there were rumors that the search engine giant Google Inc., is also preparing their very own mobile phone with touch screen and to feature all Google software. But on March 21, 2007; Google's South-East Asia managing director of sales and operations, Richard Kimber, echoed statements made by Google's chief internet evangelist, Vinton Cerf, that building hardware would be a dramatic shift in the company's business model. And that there are rather focused on software and not phone, also added that Google was more logical to form partnerships with existing handset makers instead.

There was a recent stir on the story with news by Digitimes that HTC to ship Google handsets by 4Q07 and launched early in 2008. They even went on to detail that Google handset will support Texas Instruments' (TI) 3G platform and EDGE, pointed out the makers. The handset, however, will not feature GPS functionality. The device will also feature built-in G-mail and Google search.

They also added that "Industry watchers expect Google will first partner with European telecom provider Orange for the launch of the handset. Google also has been in touch with other service providers for orders, noted sources. Handset component makers indicated that Google handsets will adopt dual brand (Google and the telecom service provider) but will not have an HTC logo on it."

HTC declined to comment on the report. So all we have to o is wait for more news or confirmation on the news.

Contributors

Seethe (Seetha Lakshmi)

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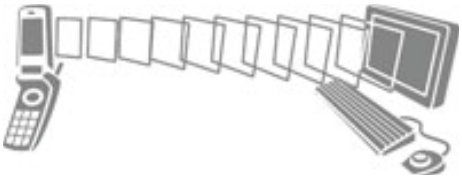
http://www.smh.com.au

http://www.digitimes.com

http://www.engadget.com

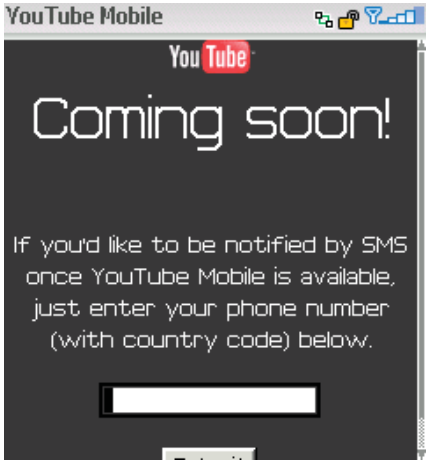
Youtube's love for mobile phones



Youtube already has Mobile upload possible for you to upload videos to YouTube directly from your mobile phone. This service is available from http://www.youtube.com/mobile and any phone with Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS). To use this feature, the registered users of Youtube must Create "Mobile Profile", the service allows notification to users when video upload is complete through email or as text SMS message directly to your phone. The uploaded videos will feature a small mobile phone icon with the description of the profile used.

Previously it has partnered with Nokia to provide youtube content on NSeries phones and also inked a deal with Veri-

zon a leading wireless services provider last year.


YouTube Mobile
YouTube
Coming soon!
If you'd like to be notified by SMS once YouTube Mobile is available, just enter your phone number (with country code) below.

The Youtube mobile site http://m.youtube.com has been rumors to be the mobile version of the Youtube to play videos and currently the page reads the service is coming soon and allows notification on the availability via SMS.

It is rumored that Youtube team are working hard to get the videos light weight to load faster on the mobile phone utilizing the current mobile data infrastructure which is not very much suitable for such media services.

Contributors

Seethe (Seetha Lakshmi)

References

http://www.youtube.com

Deepfish - Enhanced Browsing for mobile

Deepfish is a lightweight client application that leverages a powerful server side technology for delivery of content such as web pages to a Windows Mobile device. Content is displayed in a familiar desktop format that requires no additional work by the content or site author.

Deepfish provides:

* A familiar look and feel of web pages on mobile as seen on desktop.

* Bandwidth optimized rendering for faster content delivery.

* Address bar web navigation.

* Intuitive zooming, panning and cue map for quick navigation and browsing.

* Support for simple link navigation and form submission.

Currently, the Deepfish technology preview is available only on a limited basis; according to the product site, access will be provided on a first come, first serve basis and the technology preview will be closed to new participants once initial limit is reached.

Recently Mozilla entered the Windows mobile market with its Minimo browser – extending the browser wars to the mobile world.

Contributors

Seethe (Seetha Lakshmi)

References

http://labs.live.com/deepfish/

Mobile Newbies

Sony Ericsson w970 in leaked shots

Mobile Mentalism published some leaked shots of the Sony Ericsson W970 an upcoming walkman phone codenamed Sony Ericsson Adriana that is going to be in a swivel form factor, with 512MB of internal memory, video recording and landscape-view video playback. Exact specs are unknown.

The next Moto Q and Motorola's new promotion mechanism

The Moto Q 9h is Moto's next phone on the block with the Q series, featuring QWERTY keyboard, with quad-band Edge, triband UMTS/HSDPA and Windows Mobile 6. Hopefully this phone will have better battery life than the current Q. Boy Genius reports predicts that this phone will be will hit AT&T this August. Recently Motorola has adopted new Web 2.0 mechanism of sharing news with sites like del.icio.us and digg from their product site as seen at http://direct.motorola.com/hellomoto/motoq9h/

ModeLabs Elite EML looks elite

Launched in 1983 by John Casablancas, Elite Model Look an international model search company has decided to try their hand at making mobiles - touted as the 'top models' mobile phone. The unique square with rounded form exudes elegance and style. Its fluid navigation system allows you to click photos, send messages or surf on wap with ease. It features a VGA camera with 300K pixels. It supports SMS, MMS, GPRS and has Polyphonic tones (64 tones). It sports a 65k colors TFT display providing sharp pictures. The talk time is about three hours and the standby time is about five days. It has games loaded to stifle your boredom. This sure is going to be a phone for super models.

HTC Herald P4350 revealed by FCC documents

Documents appeared on the FCC web site today showing a version of the HTC Herald branded for T-Mobile USA - HTC P4350 is a successor to the MDA currently offered by T-Mobile. Improvements include a thinner body, spring-assisted slide, and 2 megapixel camera, running Windows Mobile 6 and featuring a touchscreen with stylus, quad-band GSM with EDGE, Bluetooth, and Wi-Fi.

LG's new Slider phone with Google loaded

The first of LG's phones with Google was announced - LG-KS10, a WCDMA/HSDPA slider phone running Symbian OS also features a 2.4-inch LCD, 2 megapixel camera, stereo Bluetooth, and multimedia playback when this pup hits Italy in April and the rest of Europe and South East Asia before the year is up.

Nokia N95 Coming to USA

N95 is Nokia's high-tech phone featuring a 5-megapixel camera, GPS, Wi-Fi, an FM radio, 160 Mbytes of internal memory plus a MicroSD card slot, both Universal Plug and Play and a TV out port to connect to home theater devices, and synchronization with Windows Media Player; it is expected to launch in USA direct from Nokia online store at NokiaUSA.com unlocked, capable to work on T-Mobile and Cingular's EDGE networks.

Symbian OS upgrades to v9.5

Symbian has announced the launch of Symbian OS v9.5, the latest evolution of the world's leading operating system for smartphones. Symbian OS v9.5 brings high performance features designed for richer consumer and enterprise experiences as well as significant savings to phone build costs and time to market, delivering a truly scalable mobile operating system for the global market. It is designed for the specific requirements of advanced 2.5G and 3G mobile phones. Symbian OS combines the power of an integrated applications environment with mobile telephony, bringing advanced data services to the mass market.

HTC heraldP4350

LG KS10 (above) and Nokia N95 (below)

Butterfly – A killer concept phone

Productdesignforums user Andrew Kim, a 15 year old Korean high-school student studying in Canada posted concept designs that he intends to submit for high school design competition focused on social networking. Kids are becoming so damn talented now.

Butterfly is a horizontal slider with dual AMOLED touch-screens, which opens biased to an angle. The lower screen acts as a keypad for dialing and messaging, while the broad top screen is for web-browsing. Andrew also foresees a user-replaceable li-ion battery, QVGA camera, SD slot and WiFi, and has even gone so far as to craft screenshots of the UI.

the result: butterfly (hardware)
The Butterfly is a social networking device designed to give the optimal experience of being connected to an educational life-style for the teenage audience. There are 3 big factors of the Butterfly that make it a unique product: the design, connectivity and interaction.
DESIGN
The Butterfly has a very unique design. The device uses a "tilting" slide mechanism that elegantly reveals the display from below the player which slides out at a comfortable 15° angle. All "physical buttons were removed and replaced with a touch screen on the front of the player. The touch screen interacts with the main screen to give a seamless interface between the device and the user. The device is also be coated with silver nanoparticles to prevent collection of bacteria.
CONNECTIVITY
The device also functions as a GSM phone with Wi-Fi connectivity. The connection to the web opens up to many opportunities. Students will be able to get the most recent updates from the school, get access to school resources, IM friends, share media, email and browse the web. Built-in organization programs will be also automatically updated to match the official school calender.
removable / rechargeable Lithium Ion Battery :
The removable battery allows users to replace battery when it runs out. The long lasting battery has a life of 18 hours for music playback and 6 hours of IM.
SVGA camera:
A high resolution SVGA camera able to take pictures up to the resolution of 800 x 600 allows you to take pictures/videos of lab experiments, diagrams and friends without artifacts or inaccurate color.
back (open)
SD card slot:
To reduce the price and flexibility of the device, no memory was built in. Instead, an SD card slot offers an infinite amount of expandable memory.
3.5" AMOLED™ display:
AMOLED™ displays present the best image possible. They require no backlighting LEDs and in result, are very slim and light. The viewing angle is virtually unlimited and colors are represented accurately.
11:06
hold
30°
open
closed
hold switch:
Holds the screen and even locks the sliding screen in place, physically, to prevent accidental opening or closing.
3.4" TFT touch display:
While offering a clear picture, the display has an accurate touch interface that gives more flexibility than traditional buttons

What do so many online communities have in common?

Drupal

STANDARDS COMPLIANT
ACCESSIBLE
MODULAR
STABLE
FREE

Visit **drupal.org** to find out why more grassroot campaigns, interest groups and corporations are switching to Drupal to manage their community and establish their online presence.

Mursi Woman with iPod (image courtesy iLounge)

Amosu's golden iPod (left) and DLO's iPod jam jacket (right)

Oh.Mi.Bod - the horniest iPod accessory - Ever

iPod – not just limited for the mac tribe

IPOD HAS BECOME THE FAVORITE MEDIA PLAYER AND IS CURRENTLY IN FIFTH GENERATION WITH CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN STYLE AND FUNCTIONALITY. PRESENTED BELOW ARE SOME RARE SIGHTINGS AND ACCESSORIES FOR IPOD

A rare iPod photo shot

iPod is not longer for the mac tribes with recent shots and new products – it is now made viable for more. A recent photo at iLounge's "iPods Around the World" gallery features a Mursi tribes woman with an iPod and an AK-47 gun.

iPod goes Gold

For people willing to spend a lot on iPod, here is one of the supposedly costliest iPod; the 24-carat gold (plated) by Amosu called the "iPod in 24 carat gold Limited Edition". The front plates are priced at £410.00 for 80GB Video, £340.00 for 30GB Video, £299.00 for 4GB Nano and Back plates at £199.99 for Ipod 24ct, £149.99 for Nano 24ct. For a complete gold covered skin this comes from $615 to $740.

The horniest iPod accessory ever

Oh. Mi. Bod is a music driven vibrator for Women, easy to plug in to iPod headphone jack and you know.. hmm... ; start feeling the joy of music as vibrations. Included in the box are the OhMiBod, with two end caps, one that needs input from a standard headphone jack - and the other with a wheel to use when there is no music, etc, a pink case, and a headphone splitter.

iPod jam jacket with innovative cable management

Digital Lifestyle Outfitters has announced the release of updated Jam Jackets for iPod nano and the 30GB fifth-generation iPod. These new Jam Jackets feature a headphone management system that secures both the cables and earbuds to the back of the case, as well as full click-wheel protection and larger opening for the Dock Connector. The DLO Jam Jacket for iPod nano and 30GB fifth-generation iPod are available for $20.

Dilbert designs the iPod killer

Dilbert comic series by Scott Adams features a strip where Dilbert proposes an iPod killer featured on April 20. Dilbert in his presentation proposes a device that will "leapfrog the iPod and provide pleasure to all five senses" where users are allowed to download "pictures, smells, tastes and celebrity tickling pattern" and Dilbert concludes that "the test group preferred it over eating. They're all dead." the strip ends with his boss commenting "It has the coolness factor". The

strip is accessible at http://www.dilbert.com/comics/dilbert/archive/images/dilbert2007036657420.gif

Contributors

Dogbert (original name unknown)

Kalyan (Kalyana Sundaram)

Memeorlame (original name unknown)

Cartman (original name unknown)

References

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http://amosu.myshopify.com

http://www.ohmibod.com

http://www.dlo.com

Zune turns Pink

Pink Zune hitting retail stores starting in May. It is going to be a limited edition of 100,000 devices, and they'll be sold in the same retail channels where Zune is sold. Amazon.com already accepts preorder for the Pink Zune and is promising delivery by May 1.

Contributors

Steve.j (original name unknown)

References

http://zuneinsider.com

http://amazon.com

Zune 2.0 and Flash Zune

According to ZuneScene who talked accidentally to a Microsoft employ working with Zune, it is expected that 2.4 million generation-2 Zune players to be ready for the 2007 holiday season. The 33 percentage of which will be hard disk models and the rest Flash memory players.

The ZuneScene editors detail the information gathered from him as "Zune 2.0 and a smaller flash based Zune will be sold this year. He would not tell me the marketing names but referred to them as the big one and little one. The hard drive version looks like the generation 1 Zune, but is thinner. It has a larger hard drive and still uses the doubleshot. The flash based player he said is about "3 by 1 1/4 by 1/4 inches" in size. It is video capable and he said the screen covers about 75% of the front, similar to the hard drive Zune. The flash player has Wi-Fi and also uses a double shot. We discussed colors, he said there were several but did not disclose them. He had some interesting points about the clamshells saying that they can't be opened easily like the current Zune. Both devices have completed the design phase, although some last minute minor tweaks to the hardware will occur. When I asked about memory capacity he said "you have to beat the competition you know" he also said the flash memory fills the smaller device from top to bottom. Surprisingly he gave some hard numbers: 2.4 million next gen Zunes will be fabricated prior the 2007 holiday season. About 2/3 of them are the smaller flash units. " A new building is currently under construction in Dao Min China, next to the one that makes the XBOX 360" he said. In Zune Scene's opinion, based on that statement, it appears the Zune 2.0 will not be another Toshiba Gigabeat based device."

Contributors

Steve.j (original name unknown)

References

http://www.zunescene.com

Pink Zune

Sansa Shaker

Sansa Connect

Sansa Base station

Sansa Shaker – mp3 for kids

SanDisk Corporation, the second largest seller of MP3 players in the United States, announced the new Sansa Shaker MP3 player designed for kids and families. A fun and unique music player, the Sansa Shaker MP3 player features many ways to enjoy and share songs, including two headphone jacks, a built-in speaker to listen without ear buds, and the ability to play SD cards loaded with your favorite music. Changing songs on the player is a snap - or rather, a shake. Young music lovers can impress their friends by shaking the device to jump to another song, or use a simple controller band for moving forward and back through their song library. A second band manipulates volume. The Shaker is expected to be available in the United States in late April at a manufacturer's suggested retail price of $39.99, with availability planned in other parts of the world later this year.

Contributors

Seetha (Seetha lakshmi)

Kalyan (Kalyana Sundaram)

References

http://www.sandisk.com

Sansa Connect – connects to Yahoo! Music unlimited with WiFi

According to ZuneScene who talked accidentally to a SanDisk announced a wireless flash player (4 GB) with large screen (2.2 inch). Sansa connect will connect to other players using the same downloading service and share music. Also connecting to internet radio and online music store Yahoo! Music unlimited with its WiFi connection. The Sansa Connect also features streaming internet radio, microSD slot and SanDisk claims the Connect supports "WMA in both unprotected and protected files" and specifically names PlaysForSure (and Vista) support, but also "utilizes an open (non-proprietary) digital rights management system that will allow users to purchase songs or access subscription download services from specific premium internet sites." Sansa Connect is priced at $249.

Contributors

Steve.j (original name unknown)

References

http://www.sandisk.com

Sansa introduces dock with remote for SanDisk mp3 players

Producing big sound from a small device, the new Sansa Base Station enables a Sansa MP3 player to become a digital jukebox and play hours of music through a home stereo system or externally-powered PC speaker set. This handy accessory, which also doubles as a docking station for recharging batteries and transferring content to and from a personal computer, was announced at IFA, where SanDisk is demonstrating its products through Sept. 6.

Priced at $69.99, the Sansa Base Station is expected to be available from retailers in the U.S. and Europe by October.

Contributors

Kalyan (Kalyana Sundaram)

References

http://www.sandisk.com

Hercules - DJ MP3

Hercules does Digital DJ minus wires

Hercules announced a digital DJ minus wires, making it the world's first wireless digital mixing mini-controller. It's small enough to tout anywhere and can be powered by two C batteries, which is good for those on-the-fly raves and mixing sessions. The DJ MP3 ($99.99 list) can be used with MP3 and WAV files stored on a PC via a wireless USB connection, but it works much like a traditional dual mixing deck. It includes cross fader, pitch fader and volume controls for scratching and mixing.

Contributors

Seetha (Seetha lakshmi)

References

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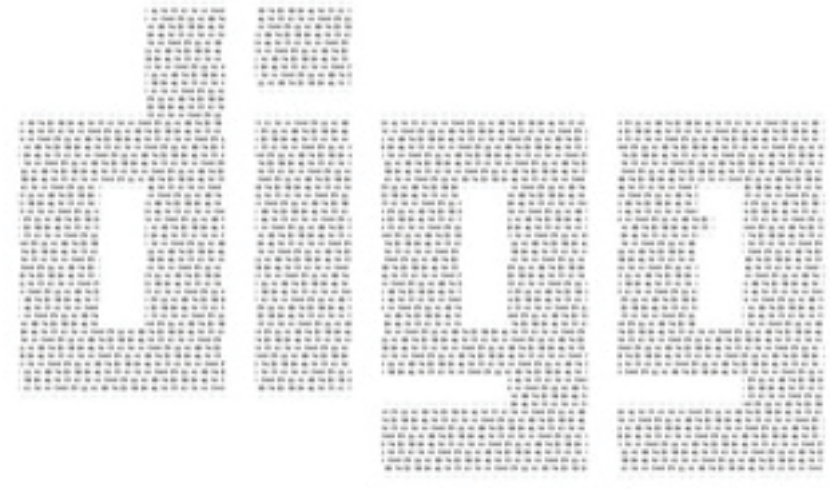
Sony - Bluray Disc

Blu-ray Disc Sales Surpass One Million Mark

Blu-ray Disc from Sony, has become the first high definition format to sell more than one million discs, a milestone it has achieved in less than a year. Blu-ray Disc sales also accounted for 70 percent of the high-definition movies sold during the first quarter of 2007, according to sales figures published today by Home Media Research. HD DVD owners and fans can still point to sales of their format of choice reaching



Digg - HDDVD - revolt (one of the image used in the digital revolt of the 21st centuary) (Image courtsey - fellow digger alex.will)

IRiver B20

FineDigital - FineDrive M760

number one at Amazon recently.

Blu-ray Disc is the next-generation optical disc format being developed for high-definition video and high-capacity software applications. A single-layer Blu-ray Disc will hold up to 25 gigabytes of data and a double-layer Blu-ray Disc will hold up to 50 gigabytes of data.

HDDVD and Digg.com pwned by a series of numbers

Guys at Doom9 Forums found the processing key that will remove the DRM on AACS on any HDDVD or Blu-ray disc 2 months back in February but recently it has caused the greatest stirr in the history of Digital revolt after Digg went on to block the posts whcih contained the key causing the "Digg effect" of Vigilantism on Digg itself on May 1.

The whole Digg frontpage was filled with the "Processing Keys" and all other posts are being burried as inaccurate. The revolters claim Digg needs to make a public apology for their censorship on freespeech inorder the revolt to stop. It still continues strong and steady. Kevin Rose, the founder of Digg ended this issue letting users to post the processing key and claimed he dares to face the consequences due to this issue. Now Digg.com is back to normal. Apparantly the hex value is not yet copy-righted.

Iriver's B20 is finally available

Iriver presented us the B20 (newest version of the B10 or Pocket TV) at the latest CES and the release date has now been announced: April 25. The B20 is Digital Audio Player with multiple functions such as DMB/DAB (TV/Radio) with a 2.4 inches screen, images, flash games and other audio and video possibilities, and a SD port. 2 versions should hit the shelves: 2GB for 198000Won (~$213) and 4Gb for 248000Won (~$267). The Iriver B20 will soon be available near you from France, UK, Sweden, Switzerland, Japan and others (7 countries).

FineDigital's FineDrive M760 – slim PMP with GPS navigation

Fine Digital announced their Finedrive M760 navigator with real-time TPEG traffic alerts for South Korea. Features include: a 7-inch, 480 x 234, LED-backlit LCD display, a little NIP (Navigation In Picture), the 25-mm (1-inch) also packs an SD card and 800mA battery to take your MPEG-4, DivX, WMV video and MP3, WMA, and WAV audio with you once you arrive. And costs at 440,000Won (~ $483)

OpenOffice.org 2.0

Word Processing, Spreadsheet, Presentation, Database, PDF Creation

Compatible with Microsoft Office®

Free to download, use and distribute

For Windows®, Mac®, Linux® and Solaris® computers

Download today from

OpenOffice.org

Produced by: Benjamin Horst
www.wikipages.com

Ad designed by: John Kakoulides
www.johnkstudio.com

LG portable GPS hits US market

LG Brings Car Navigation Expertise to U.S. Consumers for First Time with LG's new Portable Navigator line -- models LN730, LN735 and LN740, which were previewed in January at the 2007 International CES. It will be available for purchase from Circuit City stores and other leading electronics retailers across the United States.

LG's Portable Navigator line offers customers slim, easy-to-use devices featuring brilliant touch-screen LCDs ranging in size from 3.5- to 4-inches, turn-by-turn voice guidance, super-slim cases for enhanced portability, and millions of points-of-interest across the United States and Canada. The LN740 and LN735 offer users turn-by-turn voice guidance with street name announcements ("Turn left on Main Street"), while the LN740 model provides access to a real-time traffic information service available in 50 North American cities with a 90-day free trial included. With a focus on great design, intuitive use and highly accurate performance, LG's slim and compact design allows simple installation and a touch-screen menu featuring user-friendly text and large icons. They are priced at $449.95 (LN740), $349.95 (LN735), and $299.95 (LN730).

Contributors

Kalyan (Kalyana Sundaram)

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http://us.lge.com/navigation/

Gadget Bits

Tritton's USB surround sound headphone

Tritton Technologies announced their AXPC headphones for PC. These headphones are USB powered and promise to deliver true 5.1 audio via one single USB connection. A removable mic works for online gaming and VOIP as well.

Each ear cup uses four speakers for center, front, rear and subwoofer along with an integrated in-line audio control with volume adjustments for the individual channels. A master volume and a mic mute switch are also included.

Yamaha's upcoming RX-V861 costs a Grand

Yamaha announced that its new RX-V861 Home Theater Receiver that expands your entertainment horizons with a wide choice of sources and also has great features like high-definition video upscaling and deinterlacing, 1080p-compatible HDMI, Yamaha's new SCENE, XM ready with XM HD Surround, and iPod compatibility, will be available for purchase from May and priced at $1000.

Yamaha RX-V861

Yamada's Boombox is packed with a color LCD

Yamada has announced the HTV-200XU Boombox with a LCD screen, also comes with a TV tuner, FM radio and a burner to rip CDs as well as DVDs, for 220 euros (~ $300)

Yamada HTV-200XU

Pioneer's Music tap

Pioneer have rebranded the Power Line Communciation (PLC) audio kit under a "music tap" family of products. The new MT-01 is expected Mid-July. It is expected to be priced at 68,000Yen (~$575) for the complete kit (Sound Station control unit + 2x25W speaker + small 5W speaker) with an additional 14,000Yen ($118) to network your iPod. The individual speakers are sold separately for 27,000Yen ($228) for the large sized ones or 19,000Yen ($160) for the 5W model.

Philips extends computer peripherals with new mice and keyboard range

Philips announced that it is strengthening its range of computer peripherals with the introduction of four new models of wireless and corded mice, and a wireless desktop keyboard. The new peripheral products have been specially designed for user comfort, with an ergonomic feel complementing outstanding track-and-trace performance. With a clean design and high-gloss surface to prevent dirt build-up, the range will be available in Asia Pacific and US from May 2007.

The range includes a wireless mouse for notebooks, two wireless desktop models and a corded mouse with high-precision laser optics, ensuring the mice work faultlessly on virtually any surface. All mice feature a handy 4-way scroll wheel, which is perfect for navigating content-rich applications such as large spreadsheets, or playing games. The new Philips wireless desktop keyboard gives users complete control of their computing environment without the need for cumbersome wires.

Pioneer MT-01

Fujitsu unveils its FLEPia e-Reader

FLEPia from Fujitsu is a "portable information terminals", eportedly be available in an A5 size (weighing 480 grams) and an A4 flavor (320 grams), and both are just 12-millimeters thick. While details are admittedly scarce, you can reportedly read "up to two year's worth of magazines" on a single 4GB SD flash card, but you'll be recharging the battery every 50 hours or so along the way. Additionally, users will enjoy the convenience of WiFi connectivity built right in,

Philips Mouse and keyboard (left) and Fujitsu FLEPia e-reader (right)

PanDigital Digital photo frame (left) and Sanyo XACTI S70(right)

Westinghouse TX-52F480S LCD HDTV

and the six control buttons (plus a scroll key) should keep your pages aligned. The device is slated to land in white pearl, silver, and the obligatory pink pearl motifs.

Pandigital 15 inch digital photo frame

Pandigital debuts its largest Digital Photo Frame a 15-inch model which is ideal for customers who want to make a dramatic statement showcasing their digital images. Family portraits, action shots, vacation photos and cherished digital images come to life with impressive clarity and vibrancy on the new Pandigital 15-inch Digital Photo Frame. Even the most casual snapshots are incredibly clear and detailed thanks to the frame's 1024x768 high-resolution display. "Our 15-inch Digital Photo Frame brings a striking visual element to any home or office, and is the ideal size to hang on a wall, or to place a larger piece of furniture, such as a mantel." said Dean Finnegan, president, Pandigital. It is priced at $299.99.

Westinghouse 52-inch 1080p LCD Will Cost $2,499

Westinghouse TBD price on the 52" TX-52F480S LCD HDTV is $2,499. They claim of 6.5 millisecond response time, 52 inches and will be available in September.

Sanyo Xacti S70 does photo and video at 7MP

The digital compact camera Sanyo Xacti S70 is the perfect mix of chic design and innovative technology. Thanks to its 7 million pixel resolution and 3x optical zoom, the Sanyo S70 digital still camera can capture any subject with incredible detail. Another useful feature is the automatic face recognition, which helps ensure outstanding portraits even in difficult lighting conditions. In addition, the Sanyo Xacti S70 camera records high-quality VGA video clips that are a joy to behold on the 2.5-inch, responsive LCD monitor. With the automatic Quick Focus function even fast-action sport shots turn out razor-sharp. You can take approximately 250 images with one set of alkaline batteries.

Bubble Gear - Multi Media Bag

The Multi-Media Bag promises to be the next it bag with its tech savvy styling and incredible attention to detail! This ultra hip leather handbag contains a 7inch LCD screen that scrolls through digital photos, plays MP3s and full length DVD Movies!

Each handbag includes a rechargeable lithium battery, two headphones, a car charger and an ultra slim remote control. Measurements: 13x10x4. It is priced at $399.95

Transcend's enters SSD market with 32GB 2.5-inch IDE solid state disk

Transcend has launched a new solid state drive with 32GB capacity. The hard drive replacement boosts tough outer metal case, high reliability, low power consumption and anti-shock features. The 2.5-inch

IDE SSD series is also available in 8GB, and 16GB capacities.

The drive is compatible with most mainstream PC and notebook computers and features a built-in ECC (Error Correction Code) to ensure higher data-transfer reliability. No word on pricing and availability.

XM Satellite Radio sued on false advertisement with commercials

An Arkansas man's lawsuit alleging XM Satellite Radio falsely advertises its music channels as 100 percent commercial-free can proceed in U.S. District Court, at least for now, a federal appeals panel ruled Wednesday. The suit alleges XM Radio's claim that its music channels, which are available for a subscription fee, are free of commercials is "false, misleading and deceptive" because the channels' programming includes "promotional and advertisement segments."

Enderlin alleges the company's commercial-free promise violates the Arkansas Deceptive Trade Practices Act and similar statutes in 41 other states and the District of Columbia. He is seeking punitive damages and a court order that XM Radio no longer advertise its music channels as commercial-free.

Mercedes-Benz extends relationship with Sirius

Mercedes-Benz and Sirius Satellite Radio have extended their relationship to include Sirius in over 80 percent of vehicles for 2007, and plans to grow the install rate to more than 90 percent over the next 2 years.

Sirius will also now be standard equipment on two additional models this year: the S-Class and CLS. Sirius is standard equipment right now in the Mercedes-Benz SL-Class and CL-Class, as well as all AMG and 600 model vehicles. All Mercedes-Benz vehicles with Sirius installed include 6-months of free service.

Samsung and Intel have comeup with another concept PC design dubbed the Digiplan. There is no more news available but the designs and prototype look awesome. It is supposed to feature an Intel Core 2 Duo processor, a LCD monitor and an intuitive keyboard that comes with a spare incase the original one gets damaged.

Bubble gear - Multimedia bag

Transcend SSD

Westinghouse TX-52F480S LCD HDTV

XBox 360 Elite

PSP-shaped charger

Digg Button

Gaming Bits

Xbox Elite launches

Xbox 360 Elite launches to rejoice the HD nerds and Xbox fans, the premier Xbox 360 console package that includes a massive 120GB hard drive, a HDMI port and like all Xbox 360 consoles and a premium black finish. Xbox 360 Elite also includes a black wireless controller and black Xbox LIVE headset. Xbox 360 Elite has enough space for a whole library of Xbox LIVE Arcade games as well as downloadable high-definition TV shows, movies, music, and more available from Xbox LIVE Marketplace. It is priced at $479. Unfortunately, it's not going to have the new 65nm CPUs, nor the WiFi and it won't have an integrated HD DVD drive.

It's available for sale from April 29th in the US and Canada, people.

Wii's Opera browser potential hack threat

An exploit in the trial version of the Opera browser for the Wii has been identified. In hitting up the URL of a certain JPEG image, the browser can be made to crash, allowing malicious code to be implemented. Of course, this exploit can be null and void if you manually updated your Opera browser to the latest version.

A PSP-shaped Battery charger

An external battery charger, like the PSP is available for PSP Fanboys to rejoice. PSP GadgetZ has taken some pictures of this interesting peripheral. Although this mini-PSP can't play games, browse the web, or play music, it can charge your PSP batteries.

DIY Newbies

DIGG button

The Digg button is a very simple beginner electronics that teaches how to solder and program microcontroller. Once made, this basic electronic project mimics the popular Digg.com website: each time you push the button, the button flashes "Dug" and increments the counter up to 999 "diggs". The project is completely open source, and documented here including parts list, schematics and code. For those who don't want to try to chase down the electronic components, we have a full kit ready to go in the Adafruit webshop.

Digg.com is a site that allows people all over the globe to discuss and vote on ("digg") stories. The most popular and talked about stories rise to the top of the page where millions of viewers will see them. Of course, Meme or Lame itself was inspired by Digg.com to come up with the concept of citizen media for gizmophiles. We all love Digg.com

You can buy this to support a cause too; Digg will be donating $1 to EFF (Electronic Frontier Foundation)

for each purchase. It is priced at $15.00. The schematics for interested people are available from http://www.ladyada.net/make/digg/download.html

Smart Fridge

Kim Otto of Denmark's Innovation Lab hacked one of Siemens's TV-equipped refrigerators into a futuristic smart fridge, complete with a modified RFID reader, embedded processor, and touch screen interface. From the project page:

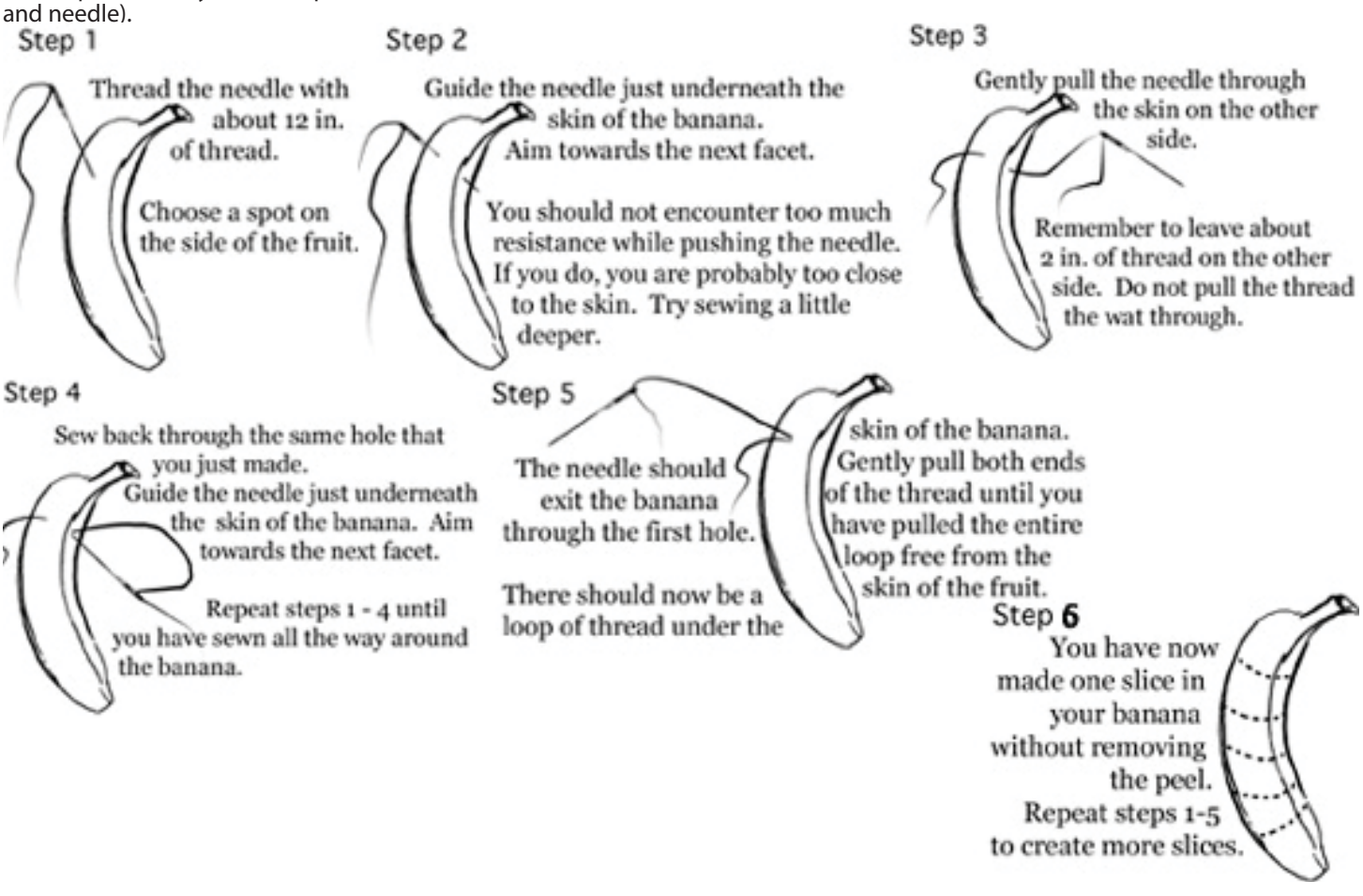
"The fridge has now become aware of its contents; and it is capable of establishing direct contact between you and their producers. Like you, the fridge is on the Internet and thus able to get hold of you – even on your mobile. It will let you know what you need to buy if you want to prepare a simmering beef stroganoff; also, it will alert you if you are out of chocolate-and-fruit flavoured ice cream.

But this is as much about security! In case a food producer detects a potential health hazard in a shipment, he can – via the fridge – send out a warning and withdraw the product in question."

Smart Fridge

Pre-Slicing a banana

Borro site featured a novel way to pre-slice the banana and make it a true gift item. Refer the illustration for the procedure (you will require a banana, thread and needle).


Step 1
Thread the needle with about 12 in. of thread.
Choose a spot on the side of the fruit.
Step 2
Guide the needle just underneath the skin of the banana. Aim towards the next facet.
You should not encounter too much resistance while pushing the needle. If you do, you are probably too close to the skin. Try sewing a little deeper.
Step 3
Gently pull the needle through the skin on the other side.
Remember to leave about 2 in. of thread on the other side. Do not pull the thread the wat through.
Step 4
Sew back through the same hole that you just made.
Guide the needle just underneath the skin of the banana. Aim towards the next facet.
Repeat steps 1 - 4 until you have sewn all the way around the banana.
Step 5
The needle should exit the banana through the first hole.
There should now be a loop of thread under the skin of the banana.
Gently pull both ends of the thread until you have pulled the entire loop free from the skin of the fruit.
Step 6
You have now made one slice in your banana without removing the peel.
Repeat steps 1-5 to create more slices.

Always use protection.
GetFirefox.com
Firefox is the free web browser that offers greater
privacy and prevents pop-ups, spyware and viruses.

One Laptop Per Child (OLPC)

THE ONE LAPTOP PER CHILD (OLPC) TRADE ASSOCIATION IS A U.S. BASED, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION CREATED BY FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE MIT MEDIA LAB TO DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, AND DISTRIBUTE A PROPOSED INEXPENSIVE LAPTOP COMPUTER INTENDED TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, TO PROVIDE THEM WITH ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE AND MODERN FORMS OF EDUCATION

XO-1 will be the first of the series though initially it might cost at $135 – 175, the goal is to reach the US$100 mark in 2008.

Approximately 500 developer boards (Alpha-1) were distributed in summer 2006; 875 working prototypes (Beta 1) were delivered in late 2006; 2400 Beta-2 machines were distributed at the end of February 2007; full-scale production is expected to start in mid-2007. Quanta Computer, the project's contract manufacturer, said in February, 2007 that it had confirmed orders for one-million units. They indicated they could ship 5-million to 10-million units this year because seven nations have committed to buy the XO-1 for their schoolchildren, including Argentina, Brazil, Libya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Thailand and Uruguay.

Progress so far

The project's origins go back more than four decades to the early days of computing, when most machines were still the size of small dinosaurs, and almost no one dreamed they would ever be suitable for children. But pioneering thinkers like Seymour Papert disagreed sharply, and over time led the long march from radical theory to reality proving the immense power of the personal computer as a learning tool for children. And the site features a neat time-line from 1967 which is accessible from http://www.laptop.org/en/vision/progress/index.shtml

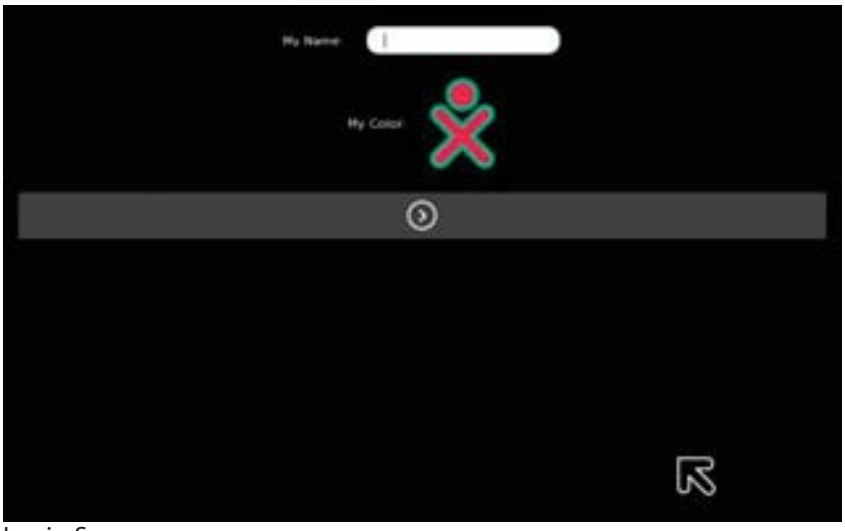
A recent news from the manufacturer Quanta that it has been forced to push back its target ship date for the XO from July to sometime in the fourth quarter of this year.

Hardware

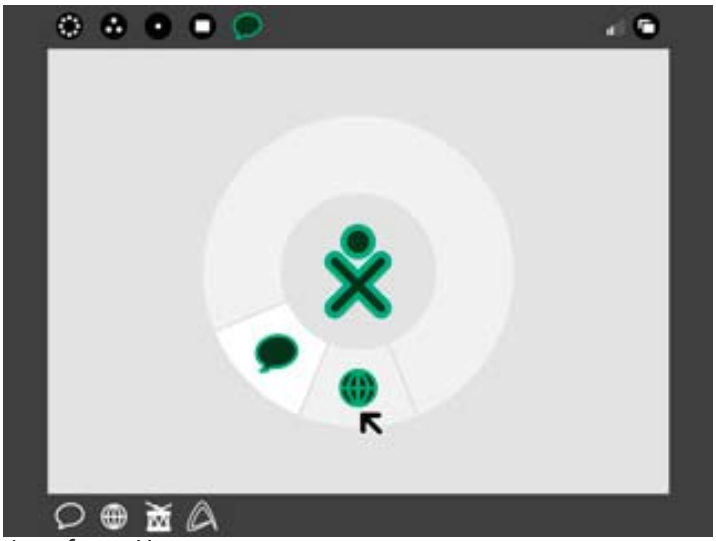
The XO laptop is the center of One Laptop Per Child. After two years of development, it is approaching mass production, with several thousand Beta test (B2) units deployed to developers and for testing in schools in participating countries. The laptop design has just undergone a final minor update to keep up with advancements in technology. It features an AMD Geode LX-700 CPU running at 433 MHz and 0.8w, 256MB DDR333 RAM, 1GB SLC NAND flash disk, 7.5" Dual-mode TFT display, keyboard with rubber-membrane key-switch assembly, AC97-compatible stereo

Sugar Interface Walkthrough

Boot Screen



Login Screen



Sugar interface - Home

audio, 802.11b/g compatible WiFi wireless connectivity and Video camera. The setup also requires a School Server Hardware.

Software

OLPC laptops will feature Open source software; Boston-based Chris Blizzard leads the Red Hat team that's developing the desktop interface for the computer. The laptop comes with a novel Sugar user interface and support library. Sugar is the core of the OLPC Human Interface. Its goal is to turn the Laptop into a fun, easy to use, social experience that promotes sharing and learning. Some of the Sugar interface screenshots as seen on http://wiki.laptop.org/go/Sugar_Instructions are presented here.

Future for OLPC

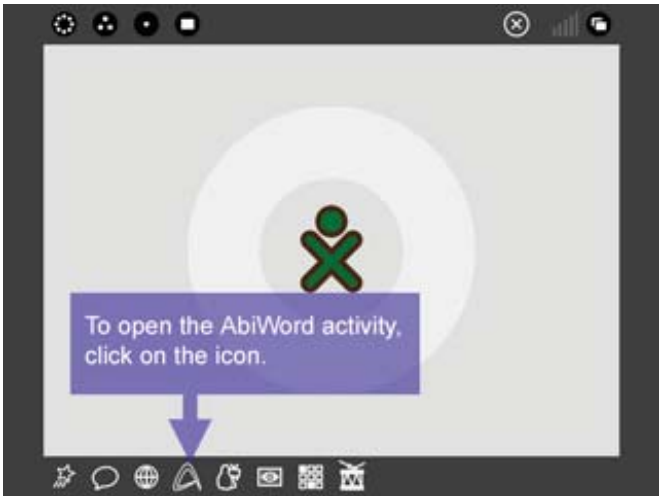
The success of the project lies in the commitment of the participating nations; however, the commitment is not binding. Some nations which had committed earlier have pulled out. Overcoming the criticism of Intel Chairman Craig Barrett "The problem is that gadgets have not been successful " and other critics, the project has progressed so far. For it to become a runaway hit – the OLPC project must ensure timely delivery and more adopters. This is a fruitful effort for a cause, "It's an education project, not a laptop project." as envisioned by Nicholas Negroponte the founder of OLPC.

Contributors

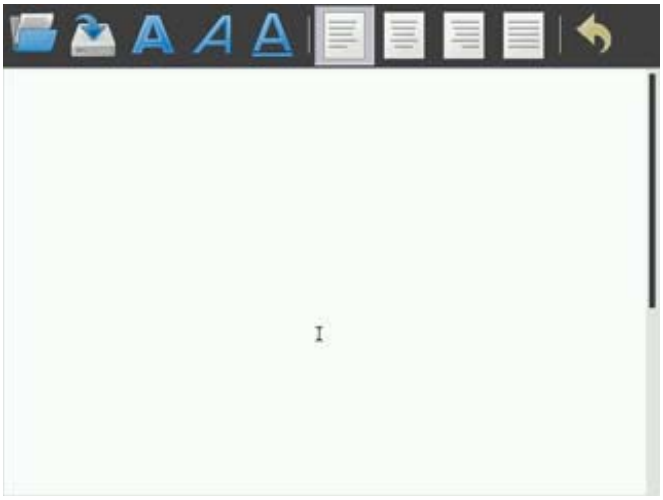
Kalyan (Kalyana Sundaram)

References

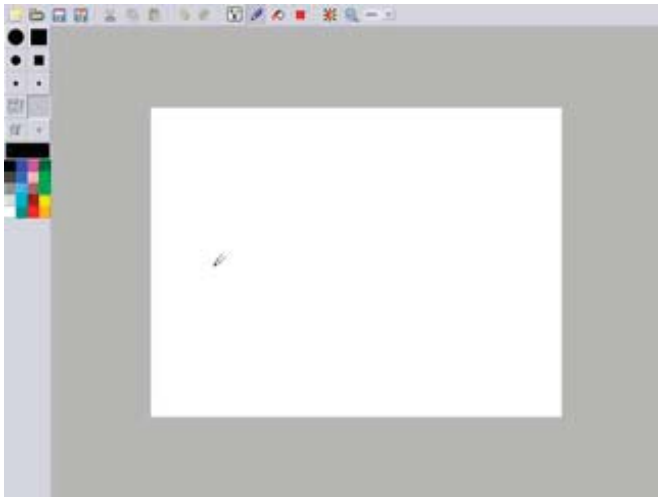
http://laptop.org



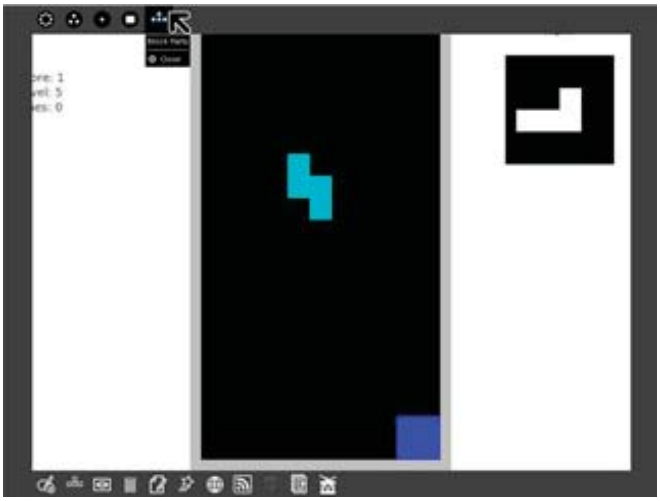
Starting Activities(Applications) from the Activities list



Abi Word activity

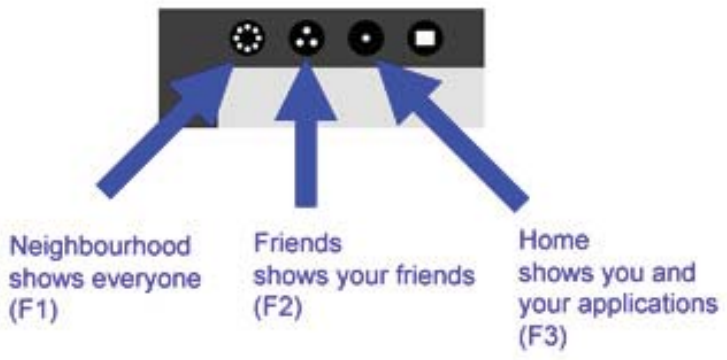


Paint Activity



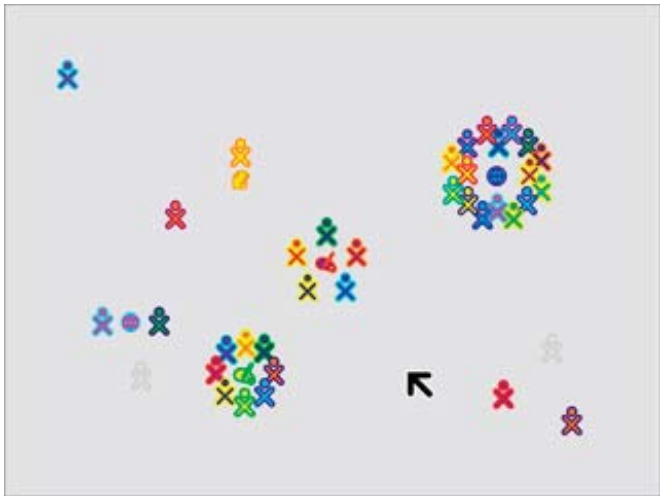
Games activity

Browser Activity with Library

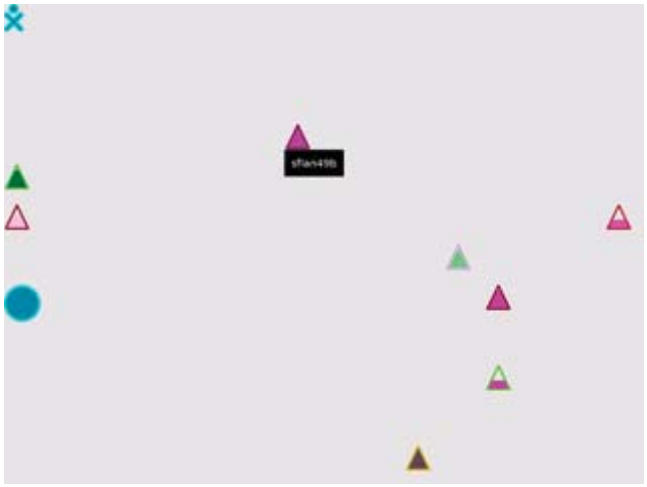


Different view modes

Active activities and switching activities



Neighborhood view mode



Neighborhood view of Wireless network

Activities in the frame

Stop Aids, join us at IAS 2007, Sydney

IAS 2007 SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

International AIDS Society
Stronger Together